

Pinder provides for a transferring of event information to subscriber units by use of a cellular radio system. However, in Pinder, the collecting of the information is completely separate from the cellular radio system, as shown in figure 1 and disclosed in column 1, lines 24-34 and column 2 at lines 23-41. Pinder teaches the use of a separate weather service that has its own various observation stations, and is silent as to the collection of the data from the various observation stations to the weather service broadcast center. There is disclosed the use of the national weather service operated by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA. Utilization of such a system of the prior art is noted in the present specification on page 1 at lines 24-27.

In particular, it is noted that, in Pinder, the weather service broadcast center 105 transmits information to the radio communications system 110 which then disseminates the information via a central controller 115 to various transmitters 122, 132 and 142 located in different geographic areas 120, 130 and 140. Contrary to the examiner's assertion in the paragraph linking pages 1 and 2 of the Action, Pinder does not suggest measuring stations located at base stations of the communications system. The examiner acknowledges that Pinder fails to specifically disclose that each environmental measuring station is physically placed on the same site as a base station, but that this would be obvious. But there is no suggestion in any of the art cited by the examiner of the arrangement of the present invention wherein separate measuring sites are located in different geographic areas at the various base stations. If the examiner wishes to allege obviousness, he must present a basis for this allegation.

In contrast to the teaching of the prior art, in the present invention, sensors of atmospheric events and/or conditions are incorporated with various stations of a cellular communications system. The measuring stations may be located physically on the same sites as respective ones of the base stations of the communications system, with provision of a physical and/or electrical connection between a measuring station and the respective base station. This is

readily accomplished because cellular radio telephone networks are already in place and already are connected to central devices such as a mobile switching center of the cellular radio telephone network.

Upon comparing the teachings of Pinder and the present specification, it is observed that Pinder does not disclose use of any base stations of a cellular radio system operative with measuring stations for collecting the measurement data to be routed to central equipment for transmission to subscribers of the cellular network. Pinder fails to disclose collecting information over a cellular radio system from measurement stations located at the sites of base stations of a cellular system and, moreover, fails to disclose that the data would be collected utilizing the same cellular radio system through which the measurement data is first collected to the central equipment. The foregoing observation is believed to be valid even upon combining the teachings of Pinder and Henderson.

The independent claims 1 and 7 include limitations which clearly set forth the foregoing distinctions between the teachings of the cited art and the present invention. For example, in claim 1, that is a recital of a plurality of environmental measuring stations, each being connected to one of the plurality of base stations. There is also a recital of control means for transferring measuring data to the respective base station that is connected for transferring measuring data further over the cellular radio system. Furthermore, there is a recital that each environmental measuring station is physically placed on the same site as the base station to which it is connected, and that the central equipment connected to the cellular radio system is for collecting environmental measuring data from the plurality of environmental measuring stations through the base stations of the cellular radio system.

Accordingly, this argument is believed to overcome the rejections of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103 so as to secure allowance of these claims.

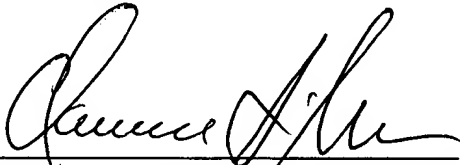
The new claims 12-21 are presented for further definition of the features of the present invention, and are believed to be allowable in view of the foregoing argument.

The foregoing amendment is believed to meet all the points raised by the Examiner so as to place the claims in condition for allowance. If any of the matters raised in the Action or any further matters have not been adequately resolved by this amendment, a telephone interview between Applicant's representative and the Examiner is requested in order to resolve any such outstanding matters.

It is submitted respectfully that all the claims are now in condition for allowance in that they patently distinguish over the art. Accordingly, a favorable action indicating such condition is earnestly solicited.

A check in the amount of \$18.00 is enclosed for the additional claim fee. Please charge deposit account No. 16-1350 for any fee deficiencies with regard to the filing of this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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17 April 01

Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231.

Carm Marsh 4/17/01
Name of Person Making Deposit Date

MARKED UP SPECIFICATION REPLACEMENT SECTION

Automatic environmental measuring stations (10, 10a, 10b, 10c) are connected in a physical connection with base stations (11; 11a; 11b; 11c) of a cellular radio system which stations measure certain basic phenomena of the atmosphere and/or the concentrations of certain substances in the air. The information of the measurements is transferred using a base station over the cellular radio system to a central equipment (14) either as regular reports or as acute alarms if any alarm limit is exceeded. The information may also be transmitted over the base station of the cellular radio system to mobile stations (15) in the area of the base station in the form of individually tailored reports and alarms.

[Figure 1.]